

THE PRAYER

Of the Reverend Mr. *HIGGINS*, before
his *TEXT*, and his *CASE*.



Printed in the Year 1707.



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*The Prayer of that Reverend Divine Mr.
HIGGINS, before he takes his TEXT.*

O Almighty and Everlasting Lord God ;
 who art always more ready to hear, than
 we to pray ; and art wont to give more,
 than either we desire or deserve ; pour down upon
 us, the abundance of thy Mercies, forgiving us those
 things whereof our Consciences are afraid, and giv-
 ing us those good things which we are not worthy to
 ask, but through the Merits and Mediation of thy
 Son *Christ Jesus* : And since thou hast been so graci-
 ously condescending, and tenderly merciful to the
 Sins of the whole World, as to send thine own Son
 from thy Bosom to be a Propitiation for the Sins of
 Mankind : Grant that the Effect of his coming may
 be as universal as the Design of it, the Salvation of
 all : But in a more particular manner we beseech thee
 to be gracious to thy holy Catholick Church, which
 thou hast purchased to thy self, by the Blood and
 Sufferings of that Immaculate Lamb *Christ Jesus* ;
 Grant that neither the Malice of Men nor Devils,
 the more open Attempts of her publick, nor the
 more close and dangerous Underminings of her pri-
 vate Enemies, may ever be able to hurt her, unite
 all her Dissensions, and heal all her Breaches ; revive
 in her O Lord, the Spirit of Meekness, Humility,
 and Union, which at this time seems languishing
 and expiring in Her, and is yet so essential to her

Welfare : Bless that part of her which thou hast
 planted in these Kingdoms to which we belong, and
 grant that as we are Members reform'd in our Prin-
 ciples, we may be reform'd in our Lives ; that so
 her Doctrine and our Practices may no longer stand
 in Opposition : Unite us all in Obedience to thee
 our God in brotherly Love and Charity one towards
 another, in an harmonious Loyalty and conscienti-
 ous Subjection to thy Servant, but our dread Sove-
 reign *Anne*, by thy special Providence of *Great Bri-
 tain, France, and Ireland*, Queen, truly Defender
 of the Antient *Catholick and Apostolick Faith* : Whose
 Person we beseech thee to bless with Health and Ho-
 nour, her Crowns with Wealth and Dignity, her
 Kingdoms with Peace and Plenty, and the Churches
 under her Protection with Piety and Knowledge,
 and a strict and holy Religion ; Cloath all her Ene-
 mies with Shame, but upon her own Head let her
 Crowns flourish : Go thou forth, *O Lord of Hosts*,
 with her Fleets and her Armies, and bless them
 with Victory and good Success ; Prosper that blessed
 Work thou hast so happily carried on by their Hands,
 the Rescue and Preservation of thy little Flock from
 the Bloody Jaws of Superstition and Tyranny : Bless
 her in her Royal Relations the Princess *Sophia*, and
 the rest of the Royal Family ; Bless the Nobility,
 Gentry and Commonalty of the Land ; and in Bless-
 ing, *O Lord*, forget not thine own Tribe the Tribe
 of *Levi*, by what Names or Titles soever dignified
 or distinguish'd, but Cloath them all with Righte-
 ousness, and let their Lips preserve Knowledge,
 make them Exemplary in their Lives and Conver-
 sations,

sations as well as Sound and Orthodox in their Doctrine; give them Grace, O Lord, in their several Stations, constantly to Preach the Truth, boldly to rebuke Vice, and patiently to suffer for thy Truth's sake. And for a continual supply of their Mortality, bless all Schools of the Prophets, all Seminaries of sound Learning and pious Education, especially those which thine own right Hand hath planted in these Nations, grant that from them may come Men both able and willing to do thee honest and brave Service both in Church and State, that they may continue as they are from Generation to Generation, publick Bulwarks and Securities against the encroaching Powers of Darkness, Atheism, and Irreligion, Superstition and Idolatry, Hypocrisy and Schism, Faction and Rebellion; and, O thou Father of Mercies and God of all Comforts, help those to right who suffer wrong; let the sorrowful sighing of the Prisoners come before thee, and according to the greatness of thy Power preserve thou those who are appointed to die; grant ease to those who are in Pain, supplies to those who are in Want, a sense of thy Judgments to those who continue obstinate in Sin, and a sense of thy Mercies, and the Merits of thy Son *Christ Jesus* to those who are in Despair, and do thou for every one of us above what our Frailties have not asked of thee; and let not our God be angry if we return unto him for a Blessing upon our selves here assembled, to learn thy Will and our Duty by the Ministry of thy holy Word: We confess, O Lord, in the bitterness of our Souls that we are not worthy the least of all thy favours; but thou

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art a God whose Property is always to have Mercy, thou knowest Lord the very secrets of our Hearts, shut not thy merciful Ears to our Prayers, but spare us Lord most Holy, O God most Mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, separate between us and our Sins, that they may no longer separate us and our God, that they may not stand in the way as a Cloud to hinder our Prayers from ascending to thee, or to hinder thy Graces, Mercies, and Favours, from descending on us; Bless me even me O Lord thy unworthy Servant, touch thou my Tongue with a Coal from thine Altar, open thou my Lips and my Mouth shall shew forth thy praise, and let not any unworthiness of mine, hinder thy Word from having its due efficacy on the Hearts of these thy Servants: And as we have pray'd so we desire to render thee all possible Praise for all thy Mercies from the beginning of time to this instant, bestowed upon us; For our Creation, for our no less than wonderful Preservation, for that never-ceasing shower of Blessings by which we live and are content, and blest, and provided for in all our Necessities, and set forward in our Duty and Way to Heaven; but above all for the Fountain and Foundation of them all *Christ Jesus*; We bless thee for the Apostles, Prophets, Martyrs, and Confessors, beseeching thee to give us Grace so to follow their good Examples, that together with them we may be made Partakers of a joyful and a glorious Resurrection. And when we are acknowledging thy Mercies, from time to time, let us never O our God, forget those many signal Interpositions of thy Providence which within the
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Circuit of few Years thou hast been graciously pleased to afford us of these Churches and Nations for our Rescue and Preservation from Blood thirsty, Merciless, Factionous, and Rebellious Men; beseeching thee still to continue such thy Mercies towards us, that all the World may know thou art our Saviour and mighty Deliverer. These Our Prayers and Praises we offer up in the Name and through the Mediation of the holy and ever blessed *Jesus* who hath commanded us when we pray to say, *Our Father, &c.*

Mr. Higgins's C A S E.

I SABELLA FOULKS a very Aged poor Woman Swears, That Mr. Higgins utter'd in his Sermon at *White-Hall* on *Asb-Wednesday* last, these following Words; *Those that brought the Royal Martyr to the Scaffold and the Block, such as those are now Preferr'd to Places of the greatest Trust in the Kingdom.* Upon her Single Testimony, a Bill was found against Mr. Higgins, at *Hicks's-Hall*, He Travers'd the Indictment, and is since Honourably Discharged.

This Obliges Mr. Higgins to Subjoin and Publish the only Paragraph of that Sermon, Wherein any Mention is made of the *Royal Martyr The Scaffold or Block*; and to Appeal to the Multitudes, who from Time to Time heard him Preach it, particularly to his Auditors at *White-Hall*, whether the following be a Faithful Relation of that Passage, or not.

Ano-

Another, Who had his Book Burnt there (*Speaking of the Neighbouring Island*) by the Hands of the Common Hangman, and himself Order'd by the *Parliament* to be taken into Custody, for the *Heresies* and *Blasphemies* in it, Lives here not only openly and unpunish'd, but in great Esteem with too many Men, even of Figure; and is (if the Expression be not below the Dignity of the Place I speak from) *the Cats Foot of the Party*, tho' I am sorry his Pawes have not yet felt the Fire; Revives and Publishes the most *Republicain Antimonarchical Antichristian* Treatises, he can rummage up out of those Magazines of *Sedition and Rebellion, Fanaticism, and Hypocrisie*, which brought the *Purest Church* in the *Christian World* to *Desolation*, *Overturnd* the *Happiest Constitution of Government*, and brought our *Queen's most Pious and most Glorious Grandfather*, our never to be forgotten *Martyr'd Monarch*, to the *Scaffold and Block* in *Forty Eight*. Undermining our *Laws and Religion* publicly, and *Poysoning* the *Nation* in their *Principles of Christianity and Loyalty*.

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